



## NEWS RELEASE

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## **Husband and Wife Charged in Connection with Long Beach Murder**

A Long Beach couple has been charged in connection with the fatal shooting of a 45-year-old man outside of a bar earlier this month, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Thomas Neri Arellaga Jr. (dob 2/11/76) faces one count of murder with use of a handgun allegations and his wife, Lorna Santos Clemena (dob 6/27/76), faces one count of accessory after the fact.

Both defendants pleaded not guilty to the charges yesterday and are scheduled to return on Sept. 11 in Department S18 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. Case NA112636 was filed yesterday.

Arellaga is charged with the fatal shooting of Tasi Malaki following an argument outside of a bar on the 400 block of West Willow Street in Long Beach on Aug. 10, prosecutors said. Arellaga was allegedly with Clemena at the bar and they both left the scene after the shooting, prosecutors added.

If convicted as charged, Arellaga faces a possible maximum sentence of 50 years to life in state prison and Clemena faces three years in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Long Beach Police Department.

### **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.